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Community groups benefit from PCC funding
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Workers accept AWE offer on pension plan

Lesley plots summer coastal row

• Lesley Foden trains for her big row

AN EAST Woodhay woman is on a mission to prove to others that age is just a number.

Lesley Foden will turn 60 later this year but will this summer push herself to the absolute limit by attempting to row around the coast of Great Britain.

The epic 1,800 mile challenge will take her and her rowing team around eight weeks in total, with Lesley hoping to raise £20,000 for charity in the process.

She said: "I want to show that it's possible for people my age to do stuff like this."

• See page 2 for full story

By Christian Wilson

AN AGREEMENT has finally been reached with striking workers at Atomic Weapons Establishment (AWE).

Employees at the nuclear deterrent manufacturer were told by bosses last year that there would be a drastic change to their pensions plan.

AWE initially announced plans to reduce the amount it contributed towards pensions from 26 per cent to just seven per cent, with angry workers voting to strike as a result in November.

Since then no less than four walk outs have taken place at the company's sites in Aldermaston and Burghfield, including two 48-hour strikes last month ahead of AWE's deadline for the change on February 1.

But after rejecting several different offers, members of trade union group Prospect have voted to accept their employers' final offer and also end all industrial action.

The new defined contribution scheme will see the amount AWE puts in depend on how much employees contribute, with the amount the employers pay ranging from 11.5 per cent to 13 per cent.

Despite this improvement on the original offer, the new pensions plan still represents a massive drop from the former defined benefit scheme, with Prospect negotiator Richard Tabbner insisting workers had been "treated appallingly".

• *(from left) Prospect AWE branch chair David Price, negotiator Richard Tabbner and deputy branch secretary Peter Lewis outside the Ministry of Defence (Picture by Stefano Cagnoni)*

He said: "This shows how important it is to respond to challenges in the workplace in a collective way and also how trade union members get a better deal on pensions and other terms and conditions.

"However, it is extremely disappointing that industrial action was needed to secure most of the improvements; the company should have offered the best possible terms in the first place.

"The result should not be interpreted as members being satisfied with the outcome.

"The closure of the defined benefit scheme broke clear promises that had been made to AWE employees in the

• Continues on page 3

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Lesley's set for oar-some challenge around Britain

By Adam Flinn

IT'S fair to say Lesley Foden enjoys a challenge.

But her plans to mark her 60th birthday this year have gone a bit further than usual, as she prepares to row 1,800 miles around the coast of Britain in eight weeks over the summer.

The East Woodhay resident isn't even an avid rower, having not been out on the water regularly since the 1980s before deciding to take up the challenge.

Lesley will be part of a team of rowers starting from Burnham-on-Crouch, near Southend, on June 3, going clockwise around the coast in eight stages and aiming to finish at the same point on July 29.

And for Lesley, the idea to do the challenge came in a split-second decision while standing in the kitchen.

"I quite like challenges in all sorts of shapes and sizes, and this is probably the biggest one I will ever do," said Lesley.

"This one came about because around 12 years ago, I came across some chaps who were raising money to go across the Atlantic, and they had their boat with them.

"For some extraordinary reason it captured my imagination and I decided I've got to do something like it somewhere along the line.

"Then about 18 months ago, I was standing in the kitchen and it popped into my head again, so I made up my mind there and then to do a row."

Lesley is no stranger to adventure, having cycled around the British coast with husband Mark in 1995.

She was a member of Abingdon Rowing Club in Oxfordshire for a few years in the 1980s, and rejoined immediately after taking up the challenge.

For this Lesley will be doing two hours on, two hours off throughout the trip, coming ashore once a week for a change of crew.

But rowing on the sea is much different to the comparatively calm waters of the River Thames, and Lesley knows it will be no small task.

She continued: "It's going to be a huge challenge, not only in terms of the actual rowing, but life on board is incredibly difficult.

"You change out of your wet clothes after your rowing session and jump into other wet clothes, and then try to sleep in your wet sleeping bag, before climbing back into your cold, wet rowing clothes to row.

"And the mental challenge will be enormous, I think everyone has incredibly low moments and incredibly high moments."

• Lesley Foden is rowing round the coast of the UK for her 60th

Yet for Lesley's friends and family, her taking on this challenge isn't too surprising.

Lesley added: "A lot of people think, 'oh God, here she goes again', because apparently I do wacky things, although I think I'm quite sensible!

"Most people are taking it seriously now because I think a lot of people were waiting to see how long it would be before I gave up the idea, but I kept going, and I think they're interested to see what happens next."

Lesley has to raise £40,000 before she can take part in the challenge – £20,000 to do the row and £20,000 for her two charities, the RNLI and marine conservation charity Sea Changers.

To donate, go to row.lesley-foden.com.

History group wins Lottery funding

HOOK Local History Group members have celebrated the club's 30th anniversary with a massive funding boost.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has presented the group with a £21,000 grant to fund a 21-month project aimed at engaging with the community to discover and protect their local history for future generations.

Led by volunteers from the history group and the Hook community, the project will focus on digitising the current paper archives, running a finds day, a photographic competition and a series of talks on the area's history.

These findings will then be collated to produce memory sticks of professional materials for distributions to local clubs, societies and schools, with the project enabling people from the community to learn new skills and use the latest equipment to digitise current paper archives.

Training will also include looking at the origins of Hook back to Roman times, an archiving workshop arranged with the Hampshire Records office, basic photography skills and presentations through the ages on the development of Hook.

Commenting on the award, group chairman Nick Maslin said: "We are particularly thrilled to have received the support of the Heritage Lottery Fund in our 30th year.

"We are confident the project, through this National Lottery support, will ensure that Hook's local history is preserved and made available for current and future generations to enjoy."

News Bites

Illegal camp

SILCHESTER: The borough council received reports this week that unauthorised work has started to build a traveller encampment in Silchester.

The situation is currently being investigated, with the works on land adjacent to and to the rear of Culhams Mill, in Little London Road, representing a breach of planning control.

North East Hampshire MP Ranil Jayawardena condemned the works, saying: "These actions that knowingly flout planning law are completely wrong. I have made clear to the borough council that residents want them to sort this out and fast.

"I am told that they are working to do just this."

Anyone who knows of an unauthorised encampment across Basingstoke and Deane is asked to report it by calling 01256 844844, or by emailing customer.service@basingstoke.gov.uk.

Artists chosen

BASINGSTOKE: A total of 21 artists from across the country have been chosen to take part in a special tribute to Steventon-born Jane Austen.

Hampshire Cultural Trust's 'Sitting With Jane' project will have 25 specially designed 'BookBenches', shaped like an open book, designed to mark 200 years since the novelist's death this summer.

The benches will be used as street furniture across Basingstoke and Deane when they are finished.

Skechers store

BASINGSTOKE: A Skechers shoe store is due to open in Festival Place.

The sporty footwear brand will open the shop in Queen Anne's Walk.

And a Next store has also opened over two floors at the shopping centre, where BHS used to be.

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Residents set for double tax hike and with more to come

By Christian Wilson

A SECOND council tax hike in a week is set to be agreed for Basingstoke and Deane residents tonight.

The borough council is due to meet to approve the authority's budget for the next year, in which it is planned to increase council tax for the second year in a row.

A £5 a year rise has been recommended for approval by full council as part of the new proposal, in a bid to help the borough deal with a 49 per cent reduction in its main Government grant this year.

This 4.7 per cent increase would result in the average band D property in the area having to pay £111.42 a year in council tax and would follow the county council's vote to hike its own tax last Thursday.

And the borough council's cabinet member for finance confirmed that £5 increases would also now follow for both the next two years, while a 1.9 per cent rise would then follow after that.

Cllr Robert Tate said: "The council is once again undertaking its financial planning and budgeting within an uncertain economic environment and during a challenging time for all local authorities.

"The specific budget changes set out in the report are in line with the longer term strategy that looks to balance the 2017/18 and 2018/19 budgets by making use of the new homes bonus received in year.

"However this is not a sustainable position and the forward forecasts identify a £4.9million deficit by 2020/21.

"It is therefore important that there is a focus on delivering further efficiency savings of £1.5m and additional income from property and investments of £2.5m by 2020/21."

A decision was also agreed by Hampshire County Council last week to introduce a five per cent rise in tax on residents from April that will see average households pay £58.62 more a year than they do currently.

This rise has been approved to help the county deal with adult social care funding pressures, with leader Roy Perry defending the decision to raise the amount households pay in tax up to £1,133.10.

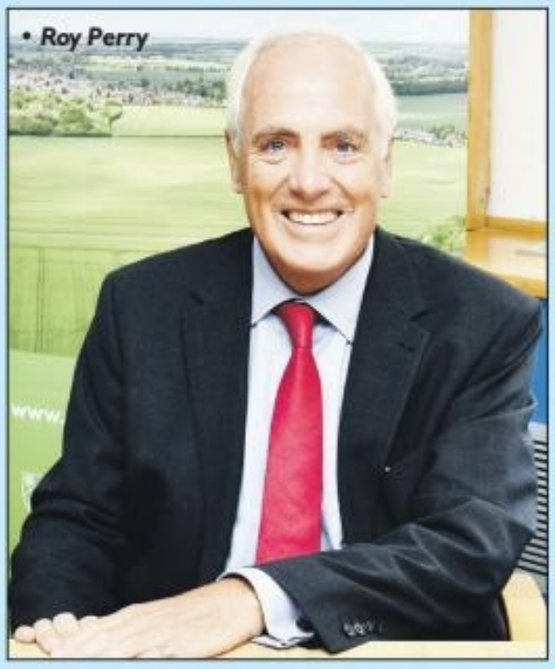
He said: "All councils are facing significant financial challenges because of demand pressures, inflation and grant reductions by Government.

"In Hampshire, these pressures have left us needing to close a funding gap of £98m by April this year.

"We are doing our level best to shield residents as far as possible from any impact, while protecting the quality of local services.

"We recognise the pressures on the NHS and that is one of the reasons we considered it important to put as much funding as possible into social care, to do our bit to help address the issue of 'bed blocking' in the NHS."

• Roy Perry



"We are doing our level best to shield residents as far as possible from any impact, while protecting the quality of local services"

• Robert Tate

"The council is once again undertaking its financial planning and budgeting within an uncertain economic environment and during a challenging time for all local authorities"

News Bites

Prevent abuse

HAMPSHIRE: The NSPCC has urged members of the public and professionals to play a role in preventing child sexual abuse in Hampshire.

More than 11,000 children at 110 primary schools across the county have attended one of the charity's 'Speak Out. Stay Safe' assemblies in the last year.

The service was delivered to schools at no cost and used interactive workshops to help children aged between four and 11 understand abuse in all its forms and know how to protect themselves and get help.

Two burglaries

HIGHCLERE: Two burglaries were reported to police on the Hampshire and West Berkshire border.

A Honda generator worth £80 was taken from a garden shed outside a house in Foxes Lane, in Penwood, Highclere, between 11am on Sunday and 7.30am on Monday.

Thieves also attempted to gain access into the three garages on the same plot of lane in Woolton Hill between 5pm last Friday and 7am on Monday, although nothing was stolen.

Contact police on 101 quoting 44170066267 for Highclere, or ber 44170065777 to report the Woolton Hill burglary.

AWE strikes employee pension deal

• From front page

past and members are rightly angry about that.

"AWE employees have been treated appallingly.

"The result simply shows that members felt the final proposals were the best that could be achieved at this stage."

Around 59 per cent of Prospect members voted to accept AWE's offer yesterday, although Mr Tabbner warned that employees "who are crucial to the work programme" could still leave the company over the pensions dispute.

But AWE were quick to defend their final offer, while insisting that workers had been made aware of the future change months in advance.

A spokesperson said: "AWE is committed to establishing future pension arrangements that are affordable for our staff and attractive to future employees.

"Improvements have been made to the new scheme and additional enhanced benefits have been included. This is a very competitive scheme, which has been benchmarked against external comparators and puts the revised AWE scheme in the top 25 percentile.

"Staff were informed that from January 31, 2017 the AWE defined benefit scheme will close and as of February 1, 2017 all members of the AWE Pension Scheme were enrolled into the AWE Group Personal Pension scheme (AWEGPP)."

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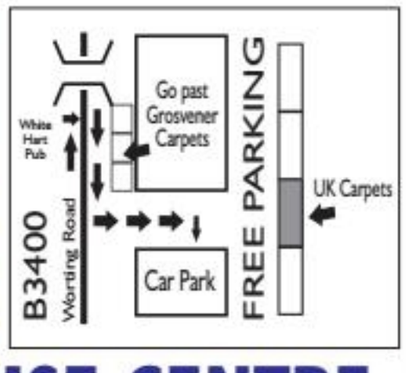

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Tadley inventor hopes to solve farming problem

A TADLEY inventor has created a solution for producing organic crops on an industrial scale following the imminent ban on farmers using commonly used herbicides.

According to the UK's agriculture and horticulture development board (AHDB), this ban could cost UK farmers and growers from €100million to €1billion a year across Europe.

It will also make it difficult to grow crops such as onions, carrots and leafy salads on an industrial scale, although Tadley's David Holloway is hoping his BioSeedMat invention will eradicate this problem.

He said: "The withdrawal of herbicides is a very serious issue and could make it very difficult for farmers worldwide, which will ultimately lead to poor quality crops.

"The BioSeedMat is a reliable alternative to herbicides and after years of product development, we are nearly ready to launch."

Three injured as assault spree takes place in town

By Christian Wilson

THREE separate assaults took place in less than 24 hours across the Basingstoke area last week.

The first happened on Friday night when a 32-year-old man was punched and kicked by another man as he made his way along Lower Brook Street.

He had to be taken to Basingstoke hospital for treatment for facial and shoulder injuries as a result of the incident, which took place at around 11.10pm, with his attacker also stealing his wallet before then fleeing the scene.

The suspect is described as being tall and of a thin build and was wearing tight blue jeans, a black jacket with a grey thick hood coming out of the back of the jacket and a red beanie hat.

A 17-year-old boy also had to be taken to hospital with injuries to his head and hands after being attacked the following day while walking along Oakridge Road, in Oakridge.

No description of the teenager's attacker has been released by Hampshire Constabulary, although officers are appealing to anyone who was in the area between 4.30pm and 4.45pm to come forward with any information they may have.

Detective Constable Lewis Ambler, of Basingstoke CID, said: "This is being treated as an isolated incident and there is no suggestion of any risk of wider harm to the public.

"Our investigation is at an early stage and we are keen to establish exactly what took place. Anyone who saw what happened, or anyone has any information about what took place, should call us."

A final incident was also then reported to police around two hours later in Popley, when a 53-year-old was assaulted by another man as he was walking between Dryden Close and Shakespeare Road at around 6.30pm.

He suffered a minor injury to his head and another to his hand as a result, with police appealing for any recollections of anyone in the area "acting suspiciously" at the time.

Residents can contact police over each of the three cases on 101, quoting 44170063107 for Friday's incident, 44170063811 for the Oakridge attack and 44170064000 for the assault in Popley.

Information can also be left anonymously with police by calling charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

• *Children and staff from Cheam School present the cheque to Gemma Gittins, far right*

School raises thousands for charity

CHILDREN at a school on the Basingstoke and Deane border have raised an impressive £7,643 for Berkshire-based bereavement charity Daisy's Dream, which they handed over this week.

The money was raised by Cheam School, in Headley, at their Christmas fair in December.

This week the cheque for the funds was presented to Daisy's Dream fundraiser Gemma Gittins.

Gemma said: "To raise such a great amount at a Christmas fair is nothing short of amazing and we are extremely grateful to everyone at the school who contributed.

"The money raised could help us support as many as 10 families across the area for a whole year, so we are so indebted to Cheam School for their generosity."

Daisy's Dream is based in Twyford and supports children and families across the county who are affected by life-threatening illness or bereavement.

Jacqui Marriott, head of pre-prep at Cheam School, said: "We decided to support Daisy's Dream because we know what a devastating impact bereavement or long-term illness can have on a child.

"The Christmas fair was a great success and we had such an amazing team of volunteers, and want to say a huge thank you to everyone who helped us to raise this fantastic sum."

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Make sure you have registered for elections

RESIDENTS are being reminded to register to vote in the upcoming county council elections.

The public will have the chance to vote for who they think should represent them on the authority in each of the 10 electoral divisions in Basingstoke and Deane.

Hampshire County Council has not yet released the full list of candidates standing for election, with the winners from the polling day on May 4 set to then represent constituents for the next four years.

The Basingstoke Central, Basingstoke North, Basingstoke North West, Basingstoke South East, Basingstoke South West, Tadley and Baughurst, Whitchurch and Clere, Loddon, Candovers and Calleva and Kingsclere seat will all be contested.

But the chief executive and returning officer, John Coughlan, has warned residents that they will not be able to cast their vote unless they register before April 13.

He said: "To be eligible to vote and choose your representative on the county council, you first have to be on the electoral register, so it's vital you have registered by the deadline."

You can register via gov.uk/register-to-vote.

Community groups given boost by grants from PCC

By Christian Wilson

EIGHT community projects operating across Basingstoke and Deane have been revealed as the recipients of some much-needed extra funding.

Hundreds of groups from the area applied for a grant as part of Hampshire's police and crime commissioner's (PCC) safer communities fund in November.

The winners have now been named, with more than £130,000 handed out to projects from the borough that deliver services aimed at reducing offending, supporting victims of crime and addressing anti-social behaviour.

Basingstoke Street Pastors, which provides people to walk the streets in the town on Friday and Saturday nights to help those in trouble has received £4,095.

NFS Mediation Limited has been handed a £20,000 cash boost to continue its work providing specialist referral intervention for victims of anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood disputes across the borough.

Reading FC's Kicks programme aimed at keeping youngsters out of trouble by throwing free kickabouts with official club trainers in Popley has been selected to receive £5,850 by PCC Michael Lane.

• The Popley-based Kicks project has received £5,850

"I was delighted to receive such a high number of bids for funding and to see the wide range of worthwhile projects and services that are either already available or proposed," said Mr Lane.

"Through this process I have seen the dedication that these organisations have to making a difference to the lives of the people they support.

"Due to the high level and quality of bids received it was essential that my decision was centred on which services or projects would best meet the local needs of victims and offenders, avoid duplication and be sustainable."

Another Basingstoke and Deane-based group, North East Hampshire Domestic Abuse Forum, successfully applied for £8,000 to improve understanding and agency responses to victims of crime.

Countywide mentoring service The Footprints Project received £28,000, Crimestoppers Hampshire was allocated £5,000, while Hampshire Stalking Clinic received a £49,000 grant.

And a final grant of £12,500 was also presented to the Keep Out scheme, which provides programmes of intervention delivered by trained prisoners to stop youngsters across the borough from making the same mistakes.

News Bites

Science evening

BASINGSTOKE: Six events are due to take place at Basingstoke Discovery Centre's first late night opening on Wednesday, March 15.

The centre will be open until 8.45pm on the day for an evening of science from 6pm that will include a variety of presentations ranging from brain science, to the chemistry behind cosmetics and the solar system.

Dr Mark Dallas from the University of Reading will explore the wonders of neuroscience, while Basingstoke Astronomical Society will allow people to study the night sky through telescopes.

A workshop to solve a fake triple homicide, one examining forensic linguistics and one giving people the chance to create their own cosmetics will also take place, while another will feature the science involved in baking.

To book a place, visit hants.gov.uk/shop/home.

Tackling hunger

BASINGSTOKE: Trustmark, a Basingstoke-based 'find a tradesperson' scheme, is working with FareShare Southern Central to help provide food to breakfast clubs, lunch clubs for older people, night shelters, women's refuges, community cafes and food banks in Basingstoke.

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News Bites

Pest problem

BASINGSTOKE: Families in Basingstoke are being urged to get their house in order now to prevent problems with pests this summer.

The dust and dirt that might have accumulated in the darkest recesses of any home over the winter months can support an entire eco-system of bugs.

But pest experts from the British Pest Control Association (BPCA) say acting while insects are dormant can help to avoid infestations later on.

Dee Ward-Thompson said: "Insects will emerge to build nests and forage for food and, left unchecked, their presence can turn from a minor nuisance in February or March to a major problem in summer."

Leaver success

HAMPSHIRE: Over 97 per cent of Hampshire's 16 and 17-year-olds secured a further education or training placement for the start of the 2016/17 academic year.

This makes Hampshire County Council one of the best performing authorities in the country at supporting young people to stay in education or training.

The Department for Education also recently published data showing the authority as providing youngsters with an offer of a place in education or training the following year at a rate above the national average.

Hospice benefits from businesses' big cheque

By Christian Wilson

A GROUP of Basingstoke businessmen and women have clubbed together to raise some much-needed funds for a local charity.

Weekly business breakfast networking group 'Basingstoke 4 Business' have donated £1,000 to help sponsor one of St Michael's Hospice's upcoming fundraising events.

The charity provides palliative care and support to people from Basingstoke living with life-limiting illnesses, as well as their families, and exists only thanks to fundraising projects.

Corporate partnership manager for the hospice, Jackie Ridge, said: "As a charity, all our services are provided to our patients and their families and carers free of charge and are tailored to help patients and their families cope as best they can with the challenges they face.

"In 2016/17 it will cost over £3.9million to provide these services to the local community with just 19 per cent funding from the North Hampshire Clinical Commissioning Group.

"The remaining £3.1m comes from the kind donations received and from our retail stores."

• *Members of Basingstoke 4 Business hand over a cheque to St Michael's Hospice*

With this in mind, Basingstoke 4 Business has chosen to provide the funds to sponsor St Michael's Hospice's first Farleigh Wallop Woodland Walk on April 9.

Walkers will be able to bring their dogs along with them for the fundraiser, with a five or 10-mile route from the Lord Portsmouth Estate giving them a chance to see Farleigh House on their travels.

Tickets will cost £12 on the day for adults, or £6 for children, with Basingstoke 4 Business member, Barry Smith, expressing his delight at being able to support the charity.

He said: "Over the years I have been an avid supporter of St Michael's Hospice and help out at as many events as I can.

"This is the 25th anniversary of the hospice and in recognition of the work they do my business colleagues and I thought it fitting that the businesses networking group should make this donation."

Police issue advice over rogue traders

POLICE have received several reports of people cold-calling at addresses across the borough in the past week.

The possible rogue trader activity took place at different properties across Buckskin, Popley and Kingsclere.

Following the incidents, Hampshire Constabulary has advised residents to remain attentive if they are visited by doorstep traders.

Sergeant Trevor Taylor, of the Basingstoke Neighbourhood Policing Team, said: "We would like people to be vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to us by calling 101.

"Remember, never employ passing traders and never pay any money up front.

"If you are considering having work done to your home or garden, get quotes from at least three reputable tradesmen."

In order to avoid being ripped off, police have urged members of the public to lock all their doors even when at home and to use a chain or spy hole, while stopping any unknown people from entering their home and alerting police to suspicious callers.

Incidents can also be reported anonymously to charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

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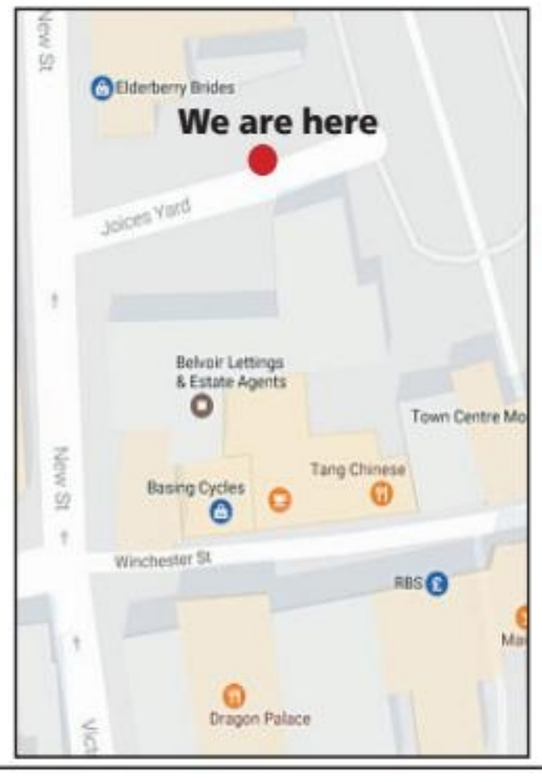

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News Bites

New priest

SILCHESTER: A Basingstoke and Deane village has welcomed the parish's new priest.

The Rt Rev Rob Young and his wife Jackie were met by the Bishop of Basingstoke, the Rt Rev David Williams, at a special ceremony at Silchester's St Mary the Virgin church.

Rev Young previously lived in Old Basing, and has two children, five grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Car stolen

OAKLEY: Thieves stole a family's car during a house burglary in Oakley last Thursday.

The incident took place between 1am and 7.30am, with the occupants of the house in Hunters Close waking to find the front door open.

Thieves managed to use a device to go through the letterbox and open the door from the inside, before entering and stealing a handbag and car keys. They then drove off in the family's white Mercedes, registration DK66 UEC.

Call 101, quote 44170060170.

Cuppa history

BASINGSTOKE: A talk on the history of tea, how to make the perfect cup and tea etiquette will take place at the Basingstoke Discovery Centre on March 28 from 2pm. Tickets £4.

Hate crime reaches all time high

MEP 'shocked' at divisions created by Brexit

• *Basingstoke-born BBC journalist Sima Kotecha was alleged to have been racially abused while completing a news feature on the EU in the town last year*

By Christian Wilson

NEW statistics have revealed that the number of hate crimes across Hampshire have reached an all time high for the county.

A total of 463 hate crime incidents were reported to Hampshire Constabulary between July and September last year, according to research by the Press Association.

Only the Met, Greater Manchester, West Yorkshire, West Midlands, the British Transport Police and Merseyside were found to have a higher rate of hate crimes than Hampshire's police force.

The figure represented a 33 per cent increase on the previous quarter between last April and June, with MEP for the south east, Keith Taylor, claiming the UK's decision to leave the European Union was to blame for the rise.

He said: "I am shocked by the instability and divisions that the vote to leave the EU have created.

"The Leave campaign's disgraceful use of fearmongering around immigration and asylum seekers has undoubtedly fuelled this hatred."

Hampshire police quickly moved to dispute this claim at the time of the vote however, by insisting that the number of reports had actually dropped from 54 to 42 in the week before and after the historic ballot on June 23.

One of these incidents took place in a Basingstoke pub straight after the referendum, when BBC Radio 4 journalist Sima Kotecha was alleged to have been called a p**i when she asked a resident why he'd decided to vote to leave the EU.

Hampshire's police and crime commissioner (PCC) recently approved grants totalling around £30,000 to 11 different organisations countywide in a bid to tackle hate crime.

Michael Lane said: "I am concerned about any increase in reported crime, particularly such as this which impacts upon vulnerable groups in our community.

"Any hate crime is unacceptable and addressing this is very important to me; in fact it was the focus of my first specific funding round and over £100,000 is being invested to tackle hate crime to date.

"I am working with the multi-agency hate crime working group to identify future priorities for partnership investment and collaborative working."

Help keep your community tidy and clean

BASINGSTOKE and Deane Borough Council is backing a national initiative to get residents involved in spring cleaning their communities.

The Great British Spring Clean will be held from next Friday to next Sunday and is set to be the country's biggest-ever community clear up.

This will include an organised litter pick on the Friday from 11am to 2pm at War Memorial Park, with all residents welcome to volunteer their time and staff set to be on hand at the park's bandstand to provide equipment.

The council's cabinet member for regulatory services and the environment, Hayley Eachus, said: "We are passionate about keeping Basingstoke clean and already encourage residents and community groups to take pride in their area and keep their neighbourhoods looking their best.

"We're delighted to be taking part in this national initiative to bring people together to tackle an issue which we know many people care very deeply about."

The council will also support groups wanting to arrange litter picks in their areas and can help by providing items including litter pickers and waste bags and arranging to collect the rubbish.

And council staff will also be carrying out enhanced clean-ups in council parks and other areas in the run up to the weekend.

Anyone interested in taking part should call 01256 844844 and select option four.

• *Cllr Hayley Eachus*

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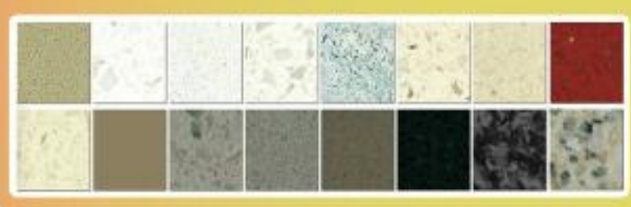

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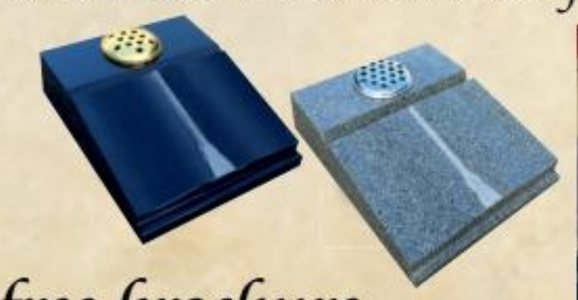

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Inquest finds TPT died from natural causes

By Christian Wilson

BASINGSTOKE-BORN It Girl Tara Palmer-Tomkinson did not die from a brain tumour – her sister has confirmed.

An inquest into the 45-year-old socialite's untimely death last Wednesday ruled that she had suffered from a perforated ulcer at her West London flat on February 8.

Reality TV star Ms Palmer-Tomkinson revealed in November that she had been receiving treatment for a growth on her pituitary gland, with some believing that this may have contributed to her death.

But Santa Montefiore last week took to Twitter to insist her sister did not have a brain tumour, while also rubbishing reports the Prince of Wales was her godfather.

She said: "I've been so touched by the warm response to Tara's death. Thank you from the whole family.

"But I'd like to clarify a couple of points.

"Today the coroner's report states that Tara died of natural causes – a perforated ulcer. She did not have a brain tumour.

"Contrary to some reports, Tara was not the goddaughter of HRH the Prince of Wales.

"Tara's good friends and family know that she was in high spirits in her last days. She had plans, trips and had written a moving new song."

Ms Palmer-Tomkinson grew up in the 1,200-acre Dummer Grange estate, near Basingstoke, and became extremely close with members of the royal family, after her father taught Prince Charles to ski.

The Prince of Wales said he was "deeply shocked and saddened" by the death of the I'm A Celebrity... Get Me Out Of Here! star, with a host of celebrities and members of the public also paying their respects.

And the Palmer-Tomkinson family thanked the public for their well wishes, while also confirming in a statement that the original It Girl's funeral would take place on February 27.

They said: "We would like to thank the many people who have contacted us about Tara following her untimely death.

"It has been a source of great comfort to know how loved she was by so many people.

"Tara died peacefully in her sleep due to a perforated ulcer and peritonitis.

"Those that knew and were close to Tara knew that there was no retreat to a 'dark place' as some have disappointingly sought to suggest.

"In the last few weeks Tara was happy, positive and making plans for when she recovered her health.

"As usual she had been busy with the friends and family she loved, and who loved her in return.

"We will miss Tara very much and will never forget the joy, love and humour she bought to our lives."

• Tara Palmer-Tomkinson

Dentists get their teeth into climbing Snowden

A DENTAL practice team are gearing up to walk the walk in order to raise money for a Basingstoke charity.

Imogen Dental, which has a practice in Kingsclere, has chosen to back Ark Cancer Centre Charity this year.

The team are hoping to raise £3,000 for the charity by walking up Mount Snowden in a sponsored challenge on May 20.

Dr Neel Tank founded Imogen Dental, and said: "Each year, we aim to fundraise for a deserving cause which will benefit our local community, involve friends and family, and invite patients to join us as a team to hopefully make a difference for not only those fighting cancer but to add our support to the families involved.

"Some of our members of staff have been directly affected by the loss of loved ones and understand the need for the cancer treatment centre that Ark Cancer Centre Charity is helping to fund."

Joining Dr Tank for the walk will be wife Laura, Norma Watson, Kane Gardner, Adele Marietti, Rikesh Patel, Kashif Hafeez, Kim Willis, Rebecca Cruddace, Elizabeth Thomas, Orla Quinn, Rebecca Canning and Suzan Al-Ali.

Director of fundraising at Ark, Mark Jones, said: "The charity is very grateful to the Imogen Dental team for this great show of support."

To sponsor the team, visit imogendental.co.uk/charity.html.

News Bites

Lottery results

BASINGSTOKE AND DEANE: St Michael's Hospice has announced the winners of its latest lottery draw from Friday, February 17.

First prize of £1,000 goes to ticket 19538 of Tadley, while ticket 62152 of Tadley claims second prize of £100.

Third prize of £50 goes to Hook ticket 36468, and Basingstoke ticket 85761 gets fourth prize of £20.

Prizes of £5 go to 89714, 26428, 67090, 80350, 42240, 06178, 81193, 87541, 70993, 00219, 151198, 61547, 56971, 51640, 80877 and 46616.

Country awards

HAMPSHIRE: Charity Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) Hampshire has announced two new sponsors for its long-running Countryside Awards scheme.

Mineral water company Hildon will sponsor the Rural Enterprise Award, while rural housing provider Hastoe will sponsor the Sustainable Buildings award.

CPRE Hampshire director Michael Rescorle said: "The Countryside Awards is CPRE Hampshire's premier project so I am delighted Hildon and Hastoe are sponsors."

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Quick Clues Across

1 Suffocate (7)
5 Turkish official (5)
8 Shortly (4)
9 American game (8)
10 Large character (7,6)
13 Half (4)
14 Ponder (4)
17 Cameramen (13)
19 Ambitious person (8)
20 Lend (4)
21 Aspects (5)
22 Speak to (7)

Quick Clues Down

2 Lunatic (6)
3 Can be stretched (7)
4 Including (9)
5 Fragment (5)
6 US west coast port (7)
7 Enticed (7)
11 Thrashed (9)
12 Revokes (7)
13 Bent forward (7)
15 Learned person (7)
16 Reveries (6)
18 Man-eating monsters (5)

Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

1 Are in a cosy place, as close as possible (7)
5 Pipes that begin with a bath (5)
8 Spirit shown after biting the dust (4)
9 Cured by taking half the medicine in a pipe (8)
10 Can Latin start on the other side of the ocean? (13)
13 An insular jumble of lies (4)
14 Piano teacher hides part of the keyboard (4)
17 Lists the Italian river on nearly full measure (13)
19 Little scientist, to right the wrong, should find food
20 Grope for the sole prize? (4)
21 Unhappily put the slogan in a cunning framework (5)
22 Take less; it isn't worth much (7)

Cryptic Clues Down

2 Goes the wrong way round or makes mistakes (6)
3 Circles round at grades (7)
4 Rare stems for flags (9)
5 At the different Greek character (5)
6 A bit of a brush with a broken blister (7)
7 Cocktail on a motor bike? (7)
11 Dons enrol for the capital life in England (9)
12 Swears at trials (7)
13 I note well that the road is badly made for the engine (9)
15 Though out of order, the lute with fun can be melodious (7)
16 Gives oath that heals round head of sore (6)
18 All for oriental warning light (5)

Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

4	6	2	1					
		3			4	7		8
5				9	2		4	
		4		1			8	2
		6	9		3	5		
1	9			4		6		
	2		6	3				9
7		1	8			2		
					7	8	5	1

9		7				2		5
	8						6	
	3		9		7		8	
		6		4		1		
	2		5		6		4	
		8		2		5		
	1		3		9		7	
	5						1	
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This week's solutions

4	6	2	1	7	8	3	9	5
9	1	3	5	6	4	7	2	8
5	8	7	3	9	2	1	4	6
3	5	4	7	1	6	9	8	2
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6	3	9	4	2	7	8	5	1
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6	9	2	5	7	4	1	8	3
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1	2	7	4	8	9	3	5	6
3	6	5	1	2	7	9	4	8
9	8	4	3	6	5	7	1	2

Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Smother 5 Pasha 8 Anon 9 Baseball 10 Capital letter 13 Semi 14 Muse 17 Photographers 19 Aspirant 20 Loan 21 Sides 22 Address

Down: 2 Maniac 3 Tensile 4 Embracing 5 Piece 6 Seattle 7 Allured 11 Lambasted 12 Repeals 13 Stooped 15 Scholar 16 Dreams 18 Ogres

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Nearest 5 Tubes 8 Grit 9 Remedied 10 Transatlantic 13 Isle 14 Note 17 Tablespoonful 19 Scavenge 20 Fish 21 Sadly 22 Useless

Down: 2 Errors 3 Ratings 4 Streamers 5 Theta 6 Bristle 7 Sidecar 11 Londoners 12 Attests 13 Inboard 15 Tuneful 16 Curses 18 Every

Puzzles

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Saturday February 25th

BBC1

Casualty, 8.25pm

6.00 Breakfast (S) **10.00 Saturday Kitchen Live** (S) **11.30 The Little Paris Kitchen: Cooking with Rachel Khoo** (S)(R) **12.00 Football Focus** (S) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **2.00 Live Six Nations Rugby Union** (S) **4.30 Final Score** (S) **5.10 BBC News** (S) **5.20 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **5.30 Celebrity Mastermind** (S)(R) **6.00 Pointless Celebrities** (S)(R) **6.45 Let It Shine** (S)

7

8 **8.25 Casualty** Steph tries to kill herself. (S)

9 **9.15 Taboo** James Delaney confronts Sir Stuart Strange with the cold, hard truth, and plans his escape. However, the Crown has one final, deadly move to make. Last in the series. (S)

10 **10.15 BBC News; Weather;** (S) National Lottery Update (S) **10.30 Match of the Day** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches. (S)

11 **11.50 This Country** Kerry and Kurtan eagerly await the release of their uncle, Steve "Nugget" Nuggins. (S)

AFTER 12 **12.15 FILM Return from the River Kwai (1988) (15)** Second World War drama sequel, starring Chris Penn. (S) **1.50** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **1.55** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands, 7.30pm

6.30 FILM They Flew Alone (1942) (U) (S) **8.10 FILM In Which We Serve (1942) (U)** (S) **10.00 Britain's Secret Seas 11.00 Homes Under the Hammer 12.00 Two Greedy Italians: Still Hungry 1.00 FILM Waterloo (1970) (U)** (S) **3.10 Natural World** (S)(R) **4.00 Mastermind** (S)(R) **4.30 University Challenge** (S)(R) **5.00 Only Connect** (S)(R) **5.30 The House That £100K Built** (S)(R) **6.30 Flog It!** (S)(R)

7.30 Grand Tours of the Scottish Islands Paul Murton journeys around the coast of the Long Island of Harris and Lewis. (S)

8.00 Diana: Designing a Princess The most impressive dresses from the wardrobe of Diana, Princess of Wales. (S)
8.30 Dad's Army (S)(R)

9.00 FILM My Old Lady (2014) (12) Premiere. Comedy drama, starring Maggie Smith and Kevin Kline. (S)

10.45 QI XL With Matt Lucas, Lucy Porter and Ross Noble. (S)

11.30 FILM Albert Nobbs (2011) (15) Drama, with Glenn Close and Mia Wasikowska. (S)

1.15 FILM Youth Without Youth (2007) (15) Drama, starring Tim Roth. (S) **3.15** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

The Voice UK, 8.30pm

6.00 CITV 7.30 Scrambled! 9.25 ITV News (S) **9.30 Alphabetical** (S)(R) **10.25 Guess This House** (S)(R) **11.25 Off Their Rockers** (S)(R) **11.55 ITV News;** Weather (S) **12.00 FILM Free Willy 2: The Adventure Home (1995) (U)** (S) **1.50 Tipping Point** (S)(R) **2.50 The Chase** (S)(R) **3.50 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **4.00 ITV News** (S) **4.15 Live Six Nations Rugby Union** (S)

7.00 Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway New series. The presenter duo's weekend variety show returns. (S)

8.30 The Voice UK The talent contest moves into the Battle phase. (S)

9.00 FILM Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (2014) (12) Premiere. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Andy Serkis and Jason Clarke. (S)

10.30 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.45 FILM The Boat That Rocked (2009) (15) Richard Curtis's comedy, with Bill Nighy and Philip Seymour Hoffman. (S)

11.35 FILM Surrogates (2009) (12) Sci-fi thriller, with Bruce Willis and Radha Mitchell. (S)

1.10 Jackpot247 3.00 Who's Doing the Dishes? (S)(R) **3.50 ITV Nightscreen**

Channel 4

Great Canal Journeys, 8pm

6.20 Mobil 1 The Grid (S) **6.45 The King of Queens** (S)(R) **7.35 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.30 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 The Big Bang Theory** (S)(R) **11.00 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **12.00 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast** (S)(R) **1.00 Come Dine with Me** (S)(R) **3.30 A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun** (S)(R) **4.30 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **5.35 Grand Designs** (S)(R) **6.30 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 Penelope Keith's Favourite Villages The actress travels around Britain, visiting villages in different parts of the country. (S)(R)

8.00 Great Canal Journeys Timothy West and Prunella Scales venture into the open sea. (S)(R)

9.00 FILM Dawn of the Planet of the Apes (2014) (12) Premiere. Sci-fi thriller sequel, starring Andy Serkis and Jason Clarke. (S)

11.35 FILM Surrogates (2009) (12) Sci-fi thriller, with Bruce Willis and Radha Mitchell. (S)

1.15 Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA (S)(R) **2.05 Hollyoaks** (S) **4.15** Kirstie's Fill Your House for Free (S)(R) **4.25** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent (S)(R) **5.20** Fifteen to One (S)(R)

Channel 5

NCIS, 8pm

6.00 Milkshake! 10.05 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) **10.40 Access** Showbiz news and gossip. (S) **10.45 Police Interceptors Unleashed** (S)(R) **11.15 Police Interceptors** (S)(R) **1.15 Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole** (S)(R) **3.15 The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door** (S)(R) **5.15 Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords** (S)(R) **6.10 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away** (S)(R)

7.05 NCIS: Los Angeles The team hunts down a device that could destroy Los Angeles. (S)

8.00 NCIS DiNozzo must help old flame Jeanne Benoit rescue her kidnapped husband. (S)
8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 Football on 5: The Championship George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's Championship games. (S)

10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush Goals from the weekend's games in Leagues One and Two. (S)
10.30 Stealing the Mona Lisa (S)

11.30 Police Interceptors Unleashed PC Barry Peach is confronted by a foul-mouthed pensioner. (S)(R)

12.00 SuperCasino 3.10 That's So 1985 (S)(R) **4.00** Bargain-Loving Brits in the Sun (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** Nick's Quest (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

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ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **6.10** Emmerdale **8.50** Coronation Street **11.10** Ninja Warrior UK **12.10** Take Me Out **1.25** The Brit Awards 2017 **3.55** FILM: Step Up 3 (2010) (12) Dance drama sequel, starring Rick Malambri. **4.55** FYI Daily **5.00** FILM: Step Up 3 (2010) (12) Concluded. **6.05** FILM: Jack and Jill (2011) (PG) Comedy, starring Adam Sandler. **7.05** FYI Daily **7.10** FILM: Jack and Jill (2011) (PG) Concluded. **8.00** Scorpion **9.00** FILM: American Pie (1999) (15) Coming-of-age comedy, with Jason Biggs. **10.10** FYI Daily **10.15** FILM: American Pie (1999) (15) Concluded. **11.00** Family Guy **12.25** American Dad! **12.55** FILM: Couples Retreat (2009) (15) **1.55** FYI Daily **2.00** FILM: Couples Retreat (2009) (15) **3.00** Teleshopping

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Murder, She Wrote **8.45** FILM: Hidden Treasure (2001) Drama, starring John Thaw. **10.50** Inspector Morse **1.05** FILM: Carry On Cleo (1964) (PG) Comedy, starring Sid James. **2.10** FYI Daily **2.15** FILM: Carry On Cleo (1964) (PG) Concluded. **3.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **5.05** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Carry On Forever **12.00** Wycliffe **1.05** Marchlands **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Indian Hill Railways **8.00** Timeshift: The People's Liners – Britain's Lost Pleasure Fleets **9.00** Treasures of Ancient Egypt **10.00** Timewatch: Captain Cook – The Man Behind the Legend **11.00** Top of the Pops: 1983 **12.05** Arena: Loretta Lynn – Still a Mountain Girl **1.35** Country Kings at the BBC **2.35** Country Queens at the BBC **3.35** Sounds of the Seventies **3.50** Pop Go the Sixties **3.55** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Young & Hungry **6.45** How I Met Your Mother **7.35** Baby Daddy **8.30** Melissa & Joey **9.30** Young & Hungry **10.30** The Goldbergs **1.00** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **1.15** FILM: Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel (2009) (U) Comedy, starring Zachary Levi. **3.00** FILM: St Trinian's 2: The Legend of Fritton's Gold (2009) (PG) Comedy sequel, starring Rupert Everett. **5.05** The Big Bang Theory **9.00** FILM: Paul (2011) (15) Sci-fi comedy, with Simon Pegg and Nick Frost. **11.05** Gogglebox **12.10** Celebs Go Dating **2.20** Gap Year **3.15** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **4.00** Baby Daddy **4.45** Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Come Dine with Me **11.35** Homes by the Sea **12.35** Location, Location, Location **1.40** Coast vs Country **2.45** Four in a Bed **5.25** Come Dine with Me **8.00** The Dambusters' Great Escape: Secret History **9.00** Fatal Flight 447: Chaos in the Cockpit **10.00** The Plane Crash **11.40** 24 Hours in A&E **12.45** Fatal Flight 447: Chaos in the Cockpit **1.50** The Plane Crash **3.20** 8 Out of 10 Cats Uncut **4.00** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 The Violent Men (1955) (PG) Western, starring Edward G Robinson. **12.55** Cutthroat Island (1995) (PG) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Geena Davis. **3.15** Carry On Cabby (1963) (PG) Comedy, starring Sid James and Hattie Jacques. **5.00** Mr Popper's Penguins (2011) (PG) Family comedy, starring Jim Carrey. **6.45** The Chronicles of Narnia: The Voyage of the Dawn Treader (2010) (PG) Fantasy adventure, with Georgie Henley and Skandar Keynes. **9.00** Pitch Perfect (2012) (12) Comedy, starring Anna Kendrick. **11.15** It Follows (2014) (15) Horror, starring Maika Monroe. **1.20** The Sixth Sense (1999) (15) Supernatural thriller, starring Bruce Willis. **3.35** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Deadly 60 **10.00** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **12.00** Motorway Cops **1.00** The Best of Top Gear **2.00** QI XL **4.00** Storage Hunters UK **7.00** Not Going Out **9.00** FILM: Kill Bill: Vol 1 (2003) (18) Martial arts thriller, starring Uma Thurman. **11.10** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **12.10** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **1.10** Not Going Out **2.30** Suits **3.20** Gavin & Stacey **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Tenko **11.00** Sharpe **1.00** Tenko **5.00** One Foot in the Grave **7.00** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **8.00** Maisie Raine **9.00** Taggart **11.10** Waking the Dead **1.25** Hetty Wainthropp Investigates **2.25** What Remains **3.30** Garden Hopping **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Are You Smarter Than a 10 Year Old? **7.00** Monkey Business **8.00** The Big Spell **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** Football's Funniest Moments **12.00** Portrait Artist of the Year 2017 **1.00** Futurama **2.30** Modern Family **5.00** Supergirl **6.00** MacGyver **7.00** FILM: Star Wars: Episode I – The Phantom Menace (1999) (U) Sci-fi prequel, starring Liam Neeson and Ewan McGregor. **9.45** Stan Lee's Lucky Man **10.45** NCIS: Los Angeles **11.45** A League of Their Own **12.45** Duck Quacks Don't Echo **1.45** Police Force: Australia **4.15** Stop, Search, Seize **5.10** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing **11.00** Micro Monsters with David Attenborough **3.00** Without a Trace **8.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.30** Last Week Tonight with John Oliver **12.05** Real Time with Bill Maher **1.15** High Maintenance **2.25** The Wire **3.35** Looking **4.10** The Guest Wing

W SKY: 109

6.00 Believe **7.00** The Bill **12.00** EastEnders **2.00** Motorway Cops: A Traffic Cops Special **3.00** Bin There, Dump That **3.40** Heston's Fantastical Food **4.40** My Family **6.40** FILM: Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (2005) (PG) Children's fantasy, starring Johnny Depp. **9.00** FILM: Along Came a Spider (2001) (15) Detective thriller prequel, starring Morgan Freeman. **11.00** Grimm **12.00** Traffic Cops **1.20** Million Dollar Intern **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers **7.50** One Foot in the Grave **8.30** To the Manor Born **9.50** Last of the Summer Wine **11.50** The Vicar of Dibley **1.40** Only Fools and Horses **7.40** The Black Adder **8.20** Blackadder Goes Forth **9.00** Not Going Out **11.00** Bottom **12.20** Bottom Live: The Big Number 2 Tour **2.25** Bill Hicks Live: Revelations **3.30** jam **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Football Gold **7.00** Premier League Legends **8.00** Football Gold **8.30** Premier League Preview **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** Premier League Preview **12.00** Live EFL. Leeds United v Sheffield Wednesday (kick-off 12.30pm), overage of the Championship Yorkshire derby, which takes place at Elland Road. **3.00** Gillette Soccer Saturday **5.15** Live EFL. Brighton & Hove Albion v Reading (kick-off 5.30pm). **8.00** EFL Goals **8.30** Nissan Game of the Day **10.30** Nissan Match Choice **11.30** Premier League Highlights **1.00** Live Fight Night International. Deontay Wilder v Gerald Washington. **3.30** Premier League Highlights

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Local Wills & Estate Planners Michael Usher Wills based in Winchester Street Basingstoke are now offering Saturday appointments at clients homes or at their office at no extra charge. The owner Michael Usher comments "we wanted to be completely different from other firms and give customers the choice of seeing us when they wanted to" He goes onto say "we are a small company that is the right size to be totally personal and have the ability to be flexible and accommodate their needs". MU Wills are part of a medium sized business which has offices in Basingstoke and Frimley. When taking instructions to have a Will written it is most important that we fully understand the clients situation and take into account any fears or concerns that the customer may have.

Michael further comments "our advisers are experienced enough to give advice on most situations and are trained to the highest standards, we look after our clients from start to finish". The strength and integrity of the business is based on customer service, professionalism and total satisfaction. They are measured by 2 websites that satisfied clients visit and comment after the advice process has completed. These websites are Trustpilot.com and Checkaprofessional.com.

Michael and his staff request that all satisfied customers make comments on their experience of having a Will written as they want all future clients to have total peace of mind.

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Sunday February 26th

DAYTIME

BBC1

The Big Painting Challenge, 6pm

9.00 The Andrew Marr Show (S) **10.00 The Big Questions** (S) **11.00 Sunday Politics** (S) **12.15 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.15 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **2.15 Flog It!** (S)(R) **3.15 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **4.00 Songs of Praise** (S) **4.35 Shop Well for Less?** (S)(R) **5.35 BBC News** (S) **5.50 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **6.00 The Big Painting Challenge** (S)

7

7.00 Countryfile Matt Baker and Ellie Harrison present the show from the Isle of Man. Including weather for the week ahead. (S)

8

8.00 Call the Midwife Valerie treats a pregnant Somali woman who has undergone female genital circumcision. (S)

9

9.00 SS-GB Archer rushes to the rescue after learning of a resistance plan to kidnap his son. (S)

10

10.00 BBC News (S)
10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S)
10.30 Have I Got a Bit More Old News for You Extended edition. (S)(R)

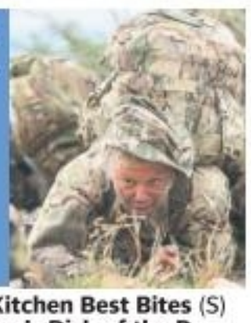
11

11.15 American High School One of the school's few white students throws a birthday party. (S)

AFTER 12

12.00 The Celebrity Apprentice USA (S) **1.20** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **1.25** BBC News (S)

BBC2



Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week, 9pm

9.45 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites (S) **11.15 Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day** (S)(R) **11.45 Nigellissima** (S)(R) **12.15 MOTD2 Extra** (S) **1.00 Holiday of My Lifetime with Len Goodman** (S)(R) **1.30 Money for Nothing** (S)(R) **2.15 Wanted Down Under Revisited** (S)(R) **3.00 Birds of Paradise: The Ultimate Quest** (S)(R) **4.00 Bobsleigh and Skeleton World Championships** (S) **6.00 Six Nations Rugby Union** (S)

7.00 Dragons' Den: Pitches to Riches Richard Osman presents a look back at some of the most memorable contestants to feature on the show. (S)(R)

8.00 Dragons' Den The panel assess the profit-making potential of a Welsh delicacy and a male fragrance. With Evan Davis. Last in the series. (S)

9.00 Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week The remaining recruits arrive in France to receive training with an elite tactical unit of the French police. (S)

10.00 FILM Life of Crime (2013) (18) Premiere. Two criminals kidnap the wife of a corrupt real-estate tycoon. Comedy, with Jennifer Aniston and Mos Def. (S)

11.35 Women's Six Nations Highlights Action from the third round of fixtures. (S)

12.05 FILM Badlands (1973) (15) Crime drama, starring Martin Sheen and Sissy Spacek. (S) **1.35** Sign Zone: Question Time (S)(R) **2.35** Holby City (S)(R) **3.30** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

Live Six Nations Rugby Union, 2pm

6.00 CITV 9.25 Countrywise: Guide to Britain (S)(R) **10.00 Peston on Sunday** (S) **10.55 Who's Doing the Dishes?** (S)(R) **11.55 ITV News;** Weather (S) **12.00 The Voice UK** The Battle phase begins. (S)(R) **2.00 Live Six Nations Rugby Union** England v Italy (kick-off 3.00pm). (S) **5.30 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **5.45 ITV News** (S) **6.00 Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera** (S)

7.00 The Voice UK The second night of the Battles phase. (S)

9.00 The Good Karma Hospital A medical case becomes personal for Ram as he prepares to attend a wedding. (S)

10.00 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.20 Peston on Sunday Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with ITV News National Editor Allegra Stratton. (S)(R)

11.20 Premiership Rugby Union Mark Durden-Smith and David Flatman present action from the 16th round of fixtures. (S)

12.20 Phillip Schofield's South African Adventure (S)(R) **12.45** Jackpot247 **3.00** Chopping Block (S)(R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

Channel 4

The Jump, 6.30pm

6.15 The King of Queens (S)(R) **7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.25 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** (S) **12.30 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **2.00 George Clarke's Amazing Spaces** (S)(R) **3.00 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **4.00 Channel 4 News** (S) **4.30 FILM 101 Dalmatians (1996) (U)** Disney comedy adventure remake, starring Glenn Close. (S) **6.30 The Jump** (S)

8.00 Rivers with Jeremy Paxman New series. The presenter travels along England's greatest rivers. The first episode focuses on the Tweed. (S)

9.00 Homeland Keane is left on the sidelines, while Carrie's work starts to impact on her home life. (S)

10.00 Gogglebox The amateur critics share their opinions on what they have been watching during the week as the popular series returns for its ninth run. (S)(R)

11.00 FILM Clear and Present Danger (1994) (12) Action thriller, with Harrison Ford and Willem Dafoe. (S)

1.30 The Last Leg (S)(R) **2.30** Hoarder SOS (S)(R) **3.25** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent (S)(R) **4.20** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures (S)(R) **4.40** Four in a Bed (S)(R) **5.10** Fifteen to One (S)(R)

Channel 5

The EFL Cup Final Highlights: Football on 5, 8.15pm

10.10 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) **10.45 Football on 5: The Championship** (S)(R) **11.40 Football on 5: Goal Rush** (S)(R) **12.10 Inside Windsor Castle** (S)(R) **1.10 Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh** (S)(R) **2.10 FILM No Reservations (2007) (PG)** (S) **4.10 FILM Bride Wars (2009) (12)** (S) **5.55 5 News Weekend** (S) **6.00 FILM The Fifth Element (1997) (PG)** (S)

8.15 The EFL Cup Final Highlights: Football on 5 Manchester United v Southampton. (S)

9.00 FILM Olympus Has Fallen (2013) (15) Action thriller, starring Gerard Butler and Aaron Eckhart. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm. (S)

11.15 FILM The Terminator (1984) (15) Sci-fi thriller, with Arnold Schwarzenegger and Linda Hamilton. (S)

1.15 SuperCasino 3.10 Secrets of the National Trust with Alan Titchmarsh (S)(R) **4.00** Witches: A Century of Murder (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** Nick's Quest (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 Emmerdale **8.35** The Voice UK **10.35** Coronation Street **1.00** 2Awesome: 2Awesome **1.10** 2Awesome: Guidance **1.45** 2Awesome: Fame High **2.05** 2Awesome: Third Wheel **2.35** 2Awesome: LA Story **2.50** The Hot Desk: Jonas Blue **3.05** FILM: The Smurfs 2 (2013) (U) Fantasy comedy sequel, starring Hank Azaria. **4.05** FYI Daily **4.10** FILM: The Smurfs 2 (2013) (U) Concluded. **5.10** Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway **6.45** FILM: Kindergarten Cop (1990) (12) Comedy, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **7.45** FYI Daily **7.50** FILM: Kindergarten Cop (1990) (12) Concluded. **9.00** Ibiza Weekender **10.00** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **12.30** The Cleveland Show **1.25** Ibiza Weekender **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 On the Buses **6.25** Heartbeat **8.20** Murder, She Wrote **10.30** Inspector Morse **3.10** FILM: Carry On Girls (1973) (PG) Comedy, starring Sid James. **4.10** FYI Daily **4.15** FILM: Carry On Girls (1973) (PG) Concluded. **5.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **7.00** Midsomer Murders **9.00** Tonight at the London Palladium **10.00** Carry On Forever **11.05** FILM: Carry On Cleo (1964) (PG) Comedy, starring Sid James. **12.10** FYI Daily **12.15** FILM: Carry On Cleo (1964) (PG) Concluded. **1.00** Inspector Morse **2.55** May the Best House Win **4.35** On the Buses **5.30** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Sound of Song **8.00** South Downs: England's Mountains Green **9.00** FILM: Two Days, One Night (2014) (15) Premiere. Drama, starring Marion Cotillard. **10.30** FILM: Hockney (2014) (15) Documentary about artist David Hockney. **12.15** Treasures of the Louvre **1.45** Order and Disorder with Jim Al-Khalili **2.45** South Downs: England's Mountains Green **3.45** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Rude(ish) Tube **6.20** How I Met Your Mother **7.05** Melissa & Joey **8.00** Hollyoaks **10.30** Coach Trip: Road to Marbs – Final Week **12.05** Coach Trip: Road to Marbs: Final Week **1.15** The Jump **2.55** The Goldbergs **4.25** The Big Bang Theory **6.55** FILM: Men in Black 3 (2012) (PG) Sci-fi comedy sequel, starring Will Smith. **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** FILM: Red (2010) (12) A retired CIA agent survives an assassination attempt, and reunites his old hit squad to find out who wants them dead. Action thriller, starring Bruce Willis and Morgan Freeman. **12.15** Celebs Go Dating **3.10** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.55** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Coast vs Country **10.00** Building the Dream **11.00** Vet on the Hill **12.00** Come Dine with Me **2.40** Four in a Bed **5.20** Come Dine with Me **8.00** Nazi Megastructures. The Blitzkrieg tactics employed by German forces in the Second World War. **9.00** Father Ted **11.05** Small, Far Away: The World of Father Ted. A road trip originally made to mark the comedy's 15th anniversary. **12.15** 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown **1.20** Father Ted **2.20** Nazi Megastructures **3.20** Food Unwrapped **3.50** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 The Colditz Story (1954) (U) Second World War drama, starring John Mills. **1.00** Percy Jackson & the Lightning Thief (2010) (PG) Fantasy adventure, starring Logan Lerman. **3.15** Spy Kids 4: All the Time in the World (2011) (PG) Family adventure, starring Jessica Alba. **4.55** 12 Angry Men (1957) (U) Legal drama, starring Henry Fonda. **6.50** The Three Musketeers (2011) (12) Swashbuckling adventure, starring Logan Lerman. **9.00** GI Joe: Retaliation (2013) (12) Action adventure sequel, starring Dwayne Johnson. **11.10** Killing Them Softly (2012) (18) Crime thriller, starring Brad Pitt. **1.00** The Running Man (1987) (18) Sci-fi action adventure, starring Arnold Schwarzenegger. **3.05** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.00 The Best of Top Gear **8.50** Top Gear: Polar Challenge **9.50** Steve Austin's Broken Skull Challenge **10.50** Traffic Cops **11.50** Jay Leno's Garage **1.50** Top Gear **2.50** FILM: Dragnet (1987) (PG) Spoof crime drama, starring Dan Aykroyd and Tom Hanks. **5.00** Red Bull Soapbox Race **6.00** The Best of Top Gear **8.00** Top Gear: Polar Challenge **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **10.00** Suits **11.00** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **12.00** Crackanory **12.30** Room 101 **1.10** Dave Gorman Goodish Hits **2.10** The Last Man on Earth **2.40** Suits **3.25** Crackanory **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 New Tricks **8.00** The Bill **12.00** Northanger Abbey **2.00** FILM: Persuasion (1995) (U) Jane Austen romance, starring Amanda Root. **4.00** Catherine Cookson's Colour Blind **7.00** New Tricks **9.00** Silent Witness **11.10** Spooks **1.50** FILM: Persuasion (1995) (U) Jane Austen romance, starring Amanda Root. **3.35** Garden Hopping **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Monkey Life **7.30** Futurama **9.00** Supergirl **10.00** Rugby's Funniest Moments **11.00** WWE Raw Hlts **12.00** Futurama **2.00** Modern Family **5.00** The Simpsons **5.30** The Big Spell **6.30** The Simpsons **9.00** Hawaii Five-0 **10.00** NCIS: Los Angeles **11.00** MacGyver **12.00** The Force: Essex **1.00** Air Ambulance ER **2.00** Arrow **2.50** Police Force: Australia **5.15** Road Wars

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The West Wing **11.00** Without a Trace **4.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Fortitude **10.00** Billions **11.10** True Detective **12.30** Marathon: The Patriots Day Bombing **2.45** The Wire **4.00** The Guest Wing

W SKY: 109

6.15 Believe **7.10** Your Home in Their Hands **8.30** James Martin: Yorkshire's Finest **9.00** MasterChef USA **1.00** Traffic Cops **2.20** Doctor Who **4.00** My Family **6.00** Outnumbered **8.00** Honey I Bought the House **9.00** John Bishop: In Conversation with Lenny Henry **10.00** Sherlock **12.00** Code Black **1.00** Million Dollar Intern **3.00** Home Shopping

GOLD SKY: 110

7.00 Cheers **7.50** One Foot in the Grave **8.30** To the Manor Born **11.10** Only Fools and Horses **9.10** Not Going Out **11.00** The Thick of It **12.20** Limmy's Show **1.40** House of Fools **2.50** jam **3.15** French and Saunders **4.00** Home Shopping

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Premier League Highlights **10.00** The Sunday Supplement **11.00** Goals on Sunday **1.00** Live Nissan Super Sunday. Tottenham Hotspur v Stoke City (kick-off 1.30pm). **3.45** Live EFL Cup Final. Manchester United v Southampton (kick-off 4.30pm). **7.00** Haye v Bellew: The Gloves Are Off **7.30** Live La Liga Football. Villarreal v Real Madrid (kick-off 7.45pm). **10.00** Premier League Highlights **10.30** EFL Cup Final **11.30** Goals on Sunday **12.30** Premier League Highlights **1.00** EFL Cup Final **2.00** Goals on Sunday **3.00** Premier League Highlights **3.30** EFL Cup Final **4.30** Premier League Highlights **5.00** EFL Cup Final

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Plenty more room on the broom

By James Richings

A SHOW that appeals to both adults and children is a rare thing but that's exactly what Room on the Broom does.

It's been 20 months since the popular production was last in Basingstoke and it makes a welcome return to The Haymarket from March 3 to 5.

Produced by the Tall Stories Theatre Company, actress Amy Harris stars as the witch, who along with her cat and a few other creatures must defeat the evil dragon.

And Amy believes performing to children is the best audience because of their honesty.

"Children are your most honest critics, and your most immediate feedback," she told the Observer.

"I love their very honest reactions and you often get children shouting out relevant things to help the characters out. That is just gold! And this show is for the parents as well as the children.

"There are a few jokes that the children might not pick up on but that adults find hilarious, and we often get comments relating to the whole family having really enjoyed the show from the youngest to the oldest.

"The adults that come are often half the audience, and have as much to gain from the story so you can't leave them out."

Room on the Broom was published in 2001 and instantly became popular with parents and children.

It has since been translated into 21 languages and was even adapted into a short film in 2012, where it was nominated for an Academy Award.

The picture story is also one of Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler's most successful books.

So with Room on the Broom having a strong background and history, Amy believes the show will have something for everyone.

"I constantly change my mind about this as I think I know my favourite moment, but then in a performance I'll realise that a different moment is my favourite moment," she said.

"As an actor that is great it speaks of the quality of the production that after performing it so many times, I'm still finding new things to enjoy.

"If I had to be pressed, I would say that my favourite thing is the Frog - the actor who plays him is a genius!"

She added: "Knowing the story is great as there are a few bits to join in with, but it's not essential and won't diminish the experience in anyway if you've never read it."

The production will last for 55 minutes. Tickets cost £14.50 and the show is suitable for anyone over the age of three.

Orchestra returns

MUSIC: The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra will be returning to The Anvil on Friday, March 3.

The musicians, who performed at the Churchill Way venue in November, will showcase pieces from Strauss, Brahms and Jesper Svedberg.

Tickets cost from £10 to £40 and it will start at 7.45pm.

A night of laughs

COMEDY: The Phoenix Comedy Club will take place at the Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre in Bordon next Thursday, March 2.

The evening will feature comedians Bobby Mair, Paddy Lennox and Wendy Wason at the Station Road venue.

Tickets cost £9.50 and it starts at 8pm.

Leech in Loddon

MUSIC: London-based covers band Leech will be gigging at The Four Horseshoes in Sherfield-on-Loddon on Friday, February 24.

The trio will perform songs from The Kings of Leon, Pink Floyd, Nirvana, Kaiser Chiefs, Sex Pistols, The Jam, Oasis, The Who and may more at the Reading Road venue.

The free gig starts at 9pm.

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Omid stands up for comedy

By James Richings

POLITICS, fables of his life and a bellyful of laughs will be on the agenda when comedian Omid Djalili visits The Anvil on Friday, March 10.

The comic of British-Iranian descent will be performing at the Station Road venue as part of his 'Schmuck For a Night' UK tour.

Returning to the stage will be a change to what Omid has been used to in last year or so, as the 51-year-old recently starred in the popular BBC show 'Dickensian' and the Sky 1 Show 'Stan Lee's Lucky Man', alongside James Nesbitt and Eve Best.

But Omid hopes he can now bring more joy to people throughout the country – which includes his forthcoming Basingstoke audience, through his speciality – comedy.

Omid said: "I write stuff on my computer and keep it under wraps until I test it. The rest that doesn't work, I tweet.

"My career has evolved like the weird little prehistoric horse the Hypohippus which used to have three toes but then developed hooves.

"So no one really cares or can say for certain it actually ever existed."

Venues in all four corners of the UK will be on Omid's mind as he ventures across the country on his first tour for almost 18 months.

Even though the comic has had an impressive film career, starring a variety of films such as The Mummy, The Infidel and Sex and the City 2' Omid says he does not have a favourite film and that stand-up comedy provides his main joy.

He said: "The thing about movies is that they are filmed and captured in that state forever.

"The reason I love stand-up is because there is always the opportunity to improve it and make it better."

Following his 50th birthday two years ago, Omid revealed what advice he would have given himself when he first started his comedy career.

"Forget everything you learned in Theatre Studies," he said.

"Nuanced variations on the same screeching Arab accent will get you further than you ever imagined."

Omid's visit to Basingstoke will start at 8pm and tickets cost £25.

The show is suitable for anyone over the age of 16.

Find us on Twitter
@BasingstokeNews

• See Omid Djalili as a Schmuck for a Night in Basingstoke next month

New York musical

THEATRE: The musical Avenue Q will be performed at The Haymarket from this evening to Saturday.

Written by Robert Lopez and Jeff Marx, the musical focuses on a college graduate called Princeton, who moves into a shabby New York apartment where he realises his neighbourhood isn't what it seems.

Tickets cost from £17.50 to £19.50.

Uniting differences

FILM: The relationship between the King of Botswana and a white English office worker is the subject of A United Kingdom at the Tadley Community Centre on Saturday, March 4.

The relationship and marriage struggles of the two is examined as they fight for acceptance.

Tickets cost £4.50 for members and £5.50 for non-members, with the screening starting at 7pm.

The life of Burton

THEATRE: A play about the life of Richard Burton, his battles with the bottle and marriage to Elizabeth Taylor will be performed at The Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre on Friday, March 3.

Starring Games of Thrones actor Rhodri Miles, Burton, starts at 7.30pm. Tickets cost £11.

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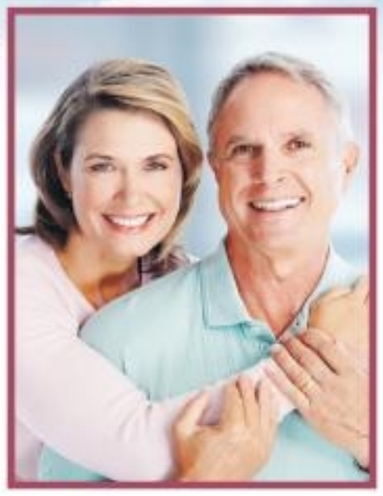

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Fri, Feb 24 – Thu, Mar 9
Corn Exchange Cinema, Newbury
LA LA LAND
A tribute to the Hollywood musical but with a story embedded in present-day Los Angeles life.

Fri, Feb 24, 7.45pm
Corn Exchange, Newbury
SING-A-LONG-A GREASE
The sing along screening of the classic film starring John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John is brought to you by the producers of Sing-a-Long-a Sound of Music.

Sat, Feb 25, 7.30pm
New Greenham Arts Centre, Newbury
MARI WILSON
Featuring her own unique interpretations of well-known songs alongside her classic hits.
For the past 18 months, Mari has been touring her show, Ready Steady Girls to sell out crowds. Mari's new album Pop Deluxe has been met with rave reviews. Her latest show features her interpretations of classic hits such as Don't Sleep In The Subway, You're My World, Always Something There To Remind Me, and 24 Hours from Tulsa. Mari will perform these songs alongside some of her classic hits, including the 80's classic Just What I Always Wanted.

Fri, Mar 3, 7.45pm
The Anvil, Basingstoke
BOURNEMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Don Quixote is one of Strauss' finest and most imaginative tone poems. Sancho Panza (viola) and Don Quixote (cello) set off in search of the beautiful Dulcinea. They encounter windmills, scatter a flock of sheep and fly on a magic carpet – each episode vividly depicted in the music – before the gentle Don meets his knightly match and expires in one of the composer's most affecting endings.

Fri, Mar 3 – Sun, Mar 5
The Haymarket, Basingstoke
ROOM ON THE BROOM
The Witch and her cat are travelling on their broomstick when they pick up some hitch-hikers – a friendly dog, a beautiful green bird and a crazy frog. But this broomstick's not meant for five and – CRACK – it snaps in two... just as the hungry dragon appears!

Sat, Mar 4, 2pm
The Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre, Bordon
NIGHT AT THE THEATRE
Combining a mixture of dance theatre and imaginative storytelling with Casson & Friends' trademark interactivity; Night at the Theatre will spark the imagination of children and their grown ups. Discover the amazing things that can happen at the theatre, the many different things that dance can be, and even make your own performance!

Sun, Mar 5, 8.15pm
The Forge, Basingstoke
PETER KNIGHT'S GIGSPANNER
Since his departure from folk-rock pioneers Steeleye Span at the end of 2013, legendary fiddle player Peter Knight has turned his full attention to his trio Gigspanner, and in the process has firmly established their burgeoning reputation as one of the most innovative acts on the folk and roots scene.

Mon, Mar 6 & Sun, Mar 12
New Greenham Arts Centre, Newbury
AUDITIONS
RARE Productions is holding open auditions for 8 to 21 year olds for their upcoming production of Hairspray this June.
The 1950's are out and change is in the air! Hairspray, winner of 8 Tony Awards including Best Musical, is a family-friendly musical piled bouffant high with laughter, romance, and deliriously tuneful songs.

Wed, Mar 8 – Sat, Mar 11
The Haymarket, Basingstoke
NORTHANGER ABBEY
At 17, she is taken by her aunt to Bath where she encounters the social whirl denied her at home. When Catherine accepts an invitation to the Tilneys' country seat at Northanger Abbey, lurid images from her favourite gothic novel The Mysteries of Udolpho threaten to overwhelm her.

Fri, Mar 10, 8pm
The Anvil, Basingstoke
OMID DJALILI
Award-winning comedian and actor Omid Djalili is back on the road with a nationwide tour.

Fri, Mar 10, 8.15pm
The Forge
EDURADO NIEBLA AND MATTHEW ROBINSON
If you don't know the stunning guitar playing of Eduardo Niebla, you're in for a treat. If you are already among his admirers around the world, you know you have something quite extraordinary in store. Accompanied by Matthew Robinson

Sat, Mar 11, 7.30pm
Douai Abbey, Newbury
DARKNESS AND LIGHT
Join the Tamesis Chamber Choir for a night of wonderful singing at the picturesque Douai Abbey.
A concert by one of Berkshire's finest choirs of rich, resonant and reflective music in a beautiful space. Programme includes Lauridsen's Lux Aeterna, Parry's Songs of Farewell, Harris's Bring us O Lord God and pieces by Macmillan, Grieg and Rheinberger. Conducted by Louise Rapple Moore with organist Simon Dinsdale.

Sat, Mar 11, 7.30pm
The Anvil, Basingstoke
80'S INVASION TOUR 2017
Due to overwhelming public demand, the 80's Invasion tour is back with four amazing artists from the decade performing on the same bill.
The new line-up features Paul Young, one of the most popular solo artists from the era, pop punk princess Toyah, Liverpool's finest guitar duo China Crisis and performing in the UK for the first time in over 25 years, the gorgeous Martika

Sat, Mar 11, 7.45pm
The Forge, Basingstoke
ZOE LYONS
Winner of the Chortle Best Comic Award, Zoe Lyons (Live at the Apollo, The John Bishop Show, Alan Davies As Yet Untitled, Mock the Week) hits the road with a brand new show.

Mon, Mar 13, 8pm
The Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre, Bordon
PHIL JUPITUS

Join stand-up comedian, poet, improviser and TV stalwart Phill Jupitus as he tries out new material ahead of Edinburgh Fringe!

Tue, Mar 14 – Wed, Mar 15
Corn Exchange, Newbury
ROMEO & JULIET/TWELFTH NIGHT
Romeo & Juliet sees young love in all its raw and savage beauty. The show drives through action-packed thrills and tender intimacy to crushing loss. Five actors blast the company's signature style of urgency, humour and clarity to conjure a stirring, visceral theatrical experience.
Twelfth Night
Unlikely lovers collide in a tale of identical twins, multiple disguises and mistaken identities. Endless invention and boundless imagination create a production that proves raucous, witty and moving.

Tue, Mar 14, 7.30pm
The Haymarket, Basingstoke
SKERRYVORE
After a year of tenth anniversary celebrations in 2015, Skerryvore are back with their signature blend of eclectic musical styles.
This 7-piece band are known for mixing everything from traditional folk and rock to pop and jazz, honing their sound over six albums and extensive worldwide touring since 2005.
They come to Basingstoke fresh from a world tour delighting audiences in Holland, Germany, Italy and the USA as well as here in the UK, storming venues from the Shetland Islands to the south of England.
There's never been a better time to dive in to their feel good fusion of energetic rock and traditional folk influences.

Thu, Mar 16, 7.30pm
The Haymarket, Basingstoke
THE COUNTRY SUPERSTARS EXPERIENCE
Sarah Jayne, who has been performing as Dolly Parton for over 24 years, and award-winning vocal impersonator Andy Crust take us on a journey back through time meeting some of the most influential figures who shaped Country history and the music.

Fri, Mar 17, 7.45pm
The Haymarket, Basingstoke
AN EVENING OF DIRTY DANCING
Now in its seventh record-breaking year, this five star homage to perhaps the greatest movie soundtrack of all time is a high energy emotional rollercoaster of an evening, with breath-taking choreography and buckets of nostalgia.
Includes the unforgettable songs Big Girls Don't Cry, Hey Baby, Wipeout, Do You Love Me? and many more. Put your dancing shoes on and get ready to have the time of your life!
Please note this production is not affiliated with Dirty Dancing: The Classic Story On Stage on tour in the UK and worldwide.

Fri, Mar 17 – Tue, Mar 21
The Corn Exchange Cinema, Newbury
T2 TRAINSPOTTING
Two decades after director Danny Boyle's groundbreaking drama set in Edinburgh's dark, druggy underbelly, the four friends drawn from Irvine Welsh's novel return to make amends… or seek revenge.
Begbie (Robert Carlyle) has just been released from jail, Renton (Ewan McGregor) is making an emotional homecoming, and Sick Boy (Jonny Lee Miller) and Spud (Ewen Bremner) are awaiting them both with very mixed feelings.

Fri, Mar 17, 7.30pm
The Anvil, Basingstoke
GOWER, COWDREY AND THE HOLY BAIL
The two old muckers are treading the boards to discuss everything from meeting on a rugby pitch at school to growing up through the England ranks, being each other's best men and why they only seemed to end up on the same side when one of them was the captain!

Fri, Mar 17, 7.45pm
The Forge, Basingstoke
MEGSON
Three times nominated in the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards and double winners of the Spiral Earth Awards, Megson draw heavily on their Teesside heritage to create a truly extraordinary brand of folk music. This husband and wife duo bring an infectious mix of heavenly vocals, lush harmonies and driving rhythmic guitars.

Fri, Mar 18, 8pm
The Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre, Bordon
PATRICK MONAHAN: THAT 80S SHOW
A fun filled first half full of games and dancing warms up for the second half which is That 80s Show making a great night out!

Sat, Mar 18, 2pm
The Phoenix Theatre and Arts Centre, Bordon
OSKAR'S AMAZING ADVENTURE
Desperate for some fun, Oskar leaves the little house on top of the mountain to try to find a friendly animal to play with. But where are all the animals? And why does Oskar have to wait till spring to play his favourite game again? This original play for young children uses a rich mix of storytelling, physical theatre, clowning, puppetry and music & song to tell the heart-warming tale of a puppy's search for friendship in the wilderness of the Alps.

Tue, Mar 21 – Sat, Mar 25
The Haymarket, Basingstoke
THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK
Flying into The Haymarket, The Witches of Eastwick is a musical comedy of seduction and supernatural that must not be missed, hot on the heels of the success of last year's West Side Story.

Tue, Mar 21, 8pm
The Anvil, Basingstoke
JIMMY CARR

Jimmy Carr is gathering a selection of his very best jokes along with brand new material for the ultimate comedy show.

Tue, Mar 21, 8.15pm
The Forge, Basingstoke
BRONWYNNE BRENT
Mississippi Delta songbird, Bronwynne Brent returns to these shores having entranced the UK on her last visit.

If you have a forthcoming event and wish to advertise it in one or more of Taylor Newspapers titles including this one please call 01235 511700 where we will be pleased to help.
For press releases about forthcoming events please email events@taylornewspapers.co.uk - (images welcome) - specifying the area that the event is taking place in and we will do our best to promote it for you, space permitting, in one or more of our newspapers.

Advertorial

KASABIAN TO HEADLINE READING AND LEEDS 2017!

Reading and Leeds have announced Kasabian as the second headliners for this year's Festivals, taking place on 25 – 27 August 2017 at Richfield Avenue, Reading, and Bramham Park, Leeds.

With their sixth studio album set for release this spring, the rock juggernauts stand as one of the biggest and most beloved British bands of the 21st century. Their unmistakable modern-day rock & roll anthems have seen them reinvent themselves from the vintage classics of West Ryder Pauper Lunatic Asylum, through to the electro-infused party starters of recent album 48:13. A band leading the charge in modern British rock - their UK Festival Exclusive performance at Reading & Leeds will mark an invigorating new chapter for a defining band of our time.

KASABIAN

Two Door Cinema Club join the impressive line up for another vibrant performance at Reading and Leeds. Expect old favourites alongside new tracks from latest album Gameshow, as the Northern Irish trio smash yet another festival crowd on their way to indie immortality.

Aussie electro king Flume is set to touch down at Reading & Leeds this summer. Latest album Skin saw him branch into stunning collaborations with AlunaGeorge, Vic Mensa, Vince Staples and Beck amongst others. Expect a stellar production of the soundtrack to 2017 when one of the most in-demand producers in modern dance, Flume takes to the Reading & Leeds stage for a UK Festival Exclusive performance.

No British DJ stands as iconic as Fatboy Slim. In the span of his 20 year career, he not only pioneered an entire revolution in British dance, but became the genre's leading face and changed a generation in the process. From 'The Rockafeller Skank', through 'Praise You', 'Right Here, Right Now' and many more, Fatboy Slim's first ever performance at Reading & Leeds this summer is guaranteed to leave festival-goers wanting to 'Eat, Sleep, Rave, Repeat' for the entire weekend.

Following the success of his top ten album The Godfather, Wiley returns to Reading and Leeds in 2017. Widely acknowledged for laying the foundations for one of the most explosive and important genres of the 21st century, catch the godfather himself performing his art in its purest form.

Circa Waves will mark their unstoppable return with an appearance at this year's festivals, bringing their hotly anticipated new album Different Creatures to life with the live presence that has catapulted them to sold-out shows across the globe.

Aussie metalcore titans The Amity Affliction will make their way to Reading & Leeds this summer for a UK Festival Exclusive performance, bringing their unmistakable sound to new levels after a mammoth 12 months of touring around the globe. One of the most talked about post-hardcore bands of the moment, their debut appearance at Reading & Leeds will be a calling moment of a band in their element.

After a mammoth 12 months of trail-blazing live moments with a growing legion of devoted fans, Rat Boy will be returning to Reading & Leeds in August. Sparking with a youthful rebellion that's captivated a nation, his riotous performance is not to be missed this summer.

These names join a stellar bill already confirmed for Reading & Leeds 2017, joining previously announced headliners Muse with Major Lazer, Bastille, At The Drive In, Architects, Tory Lanez, Glass Animals, Against The Current, Danny Brown, Andy C and While She Sleeps, for a weekend that brings the most exciting sounds and artists from across the musical spectrum, capturing a year in music like no other.

AutoWeekly
Keeping you motoring for over 30 years

Mazda3 2.2 150ps Sport Nav Diesel

By **Tony Yates**

THE new 2017 Mazda3 has been recently updated with a revised grille with a stronger three-dimensional look, a new front fog light bezel and the availability of LED headlamp technology across both body styles, along with revised door mirrors featuring wrap-around turn indicators, while hatchback versions feature a newly redesigned rear bumper.

The interior has also had a makeover to help it feel more driver-oriented. You will also find a host of updates that include higher-quality switch panels and handle bezels on the doors, and a newly designed dashboard trim insert and the adoption of an electric parking brake creates space for a more practical centre console.

Power and efficiency

My test car was fitted with a 150PS, 2,191cc common-rail diesel engine which has a low-friction and light-weight all-alloy construction which all helps to keep it as efficient as possible. The engine also has a Twin-turbo layout which helps minimise turbo lag and you can feel that working its magic as soon as you press the pedal – that of course also helps improve mid-range punch between gear changes and when overtaking is a must.

Fuel economy is also very good and I achieved 58.5mpg on the combined cycle. The engine also easily meets stringent EU Stage 6 emission levels without the need for any expensive after-treatment systems which is good news for the owner. 0 to 62 also arrives in 8.1 sec and a will reach a top speed of 130 mph.

Every model in the Mazda3 range is fitted with Mazda's innovative i-stop intelligent idle-stop technology. Developed entirely in-house and tailored specifically for its application in Mazda's new generation of SKYACTIV-Engines.

On the road

I like the way the Mazda3 handles the road – it feels very well balanced. Also, when the road gets twisty – it is more than capable of holding its own. The steering also feels light and agile – and you get enormous feedback from the front wheels as to what the road surface is doing below. Also, when you hook all this up to its fantastic 6 speed gearbox – you can't really go wrong - It's no exaggeration for me to say that I think the Mazda3 has a lot of manufacturers a little bit worried right about now.

Safety and technology

Some of the standard features on the Mazda3 include; ABS with Electronic Brakeforce Distribution (EBD) and Brake Assist (EBA), Dynamic Stability Control (DSC), a Traction Control System (TCS), an Emergency Stop Signalling System (ESS), Hill Launch Assist (HLA), and a Tyre Pressure Monitoring System (TPMS). It is also fitted with six airbags – dual front, side airbags and full-length curtain, while ISOFIX rear seats and five three-point seatbelts with pre-tensioners complete the standard safety package.

To sum up

Mazda really have done a fantastic job here - and the new Mazda3 is now well above any of its rivals and it should do well in its current newly revised form.

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02.03.17

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MOT: Jan 2018
Colour: Dark Blue
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MOT: August 2017
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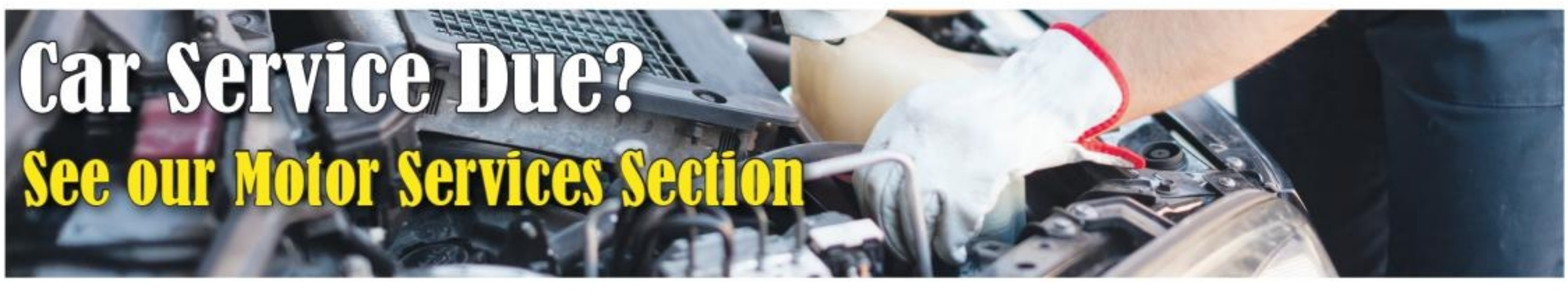

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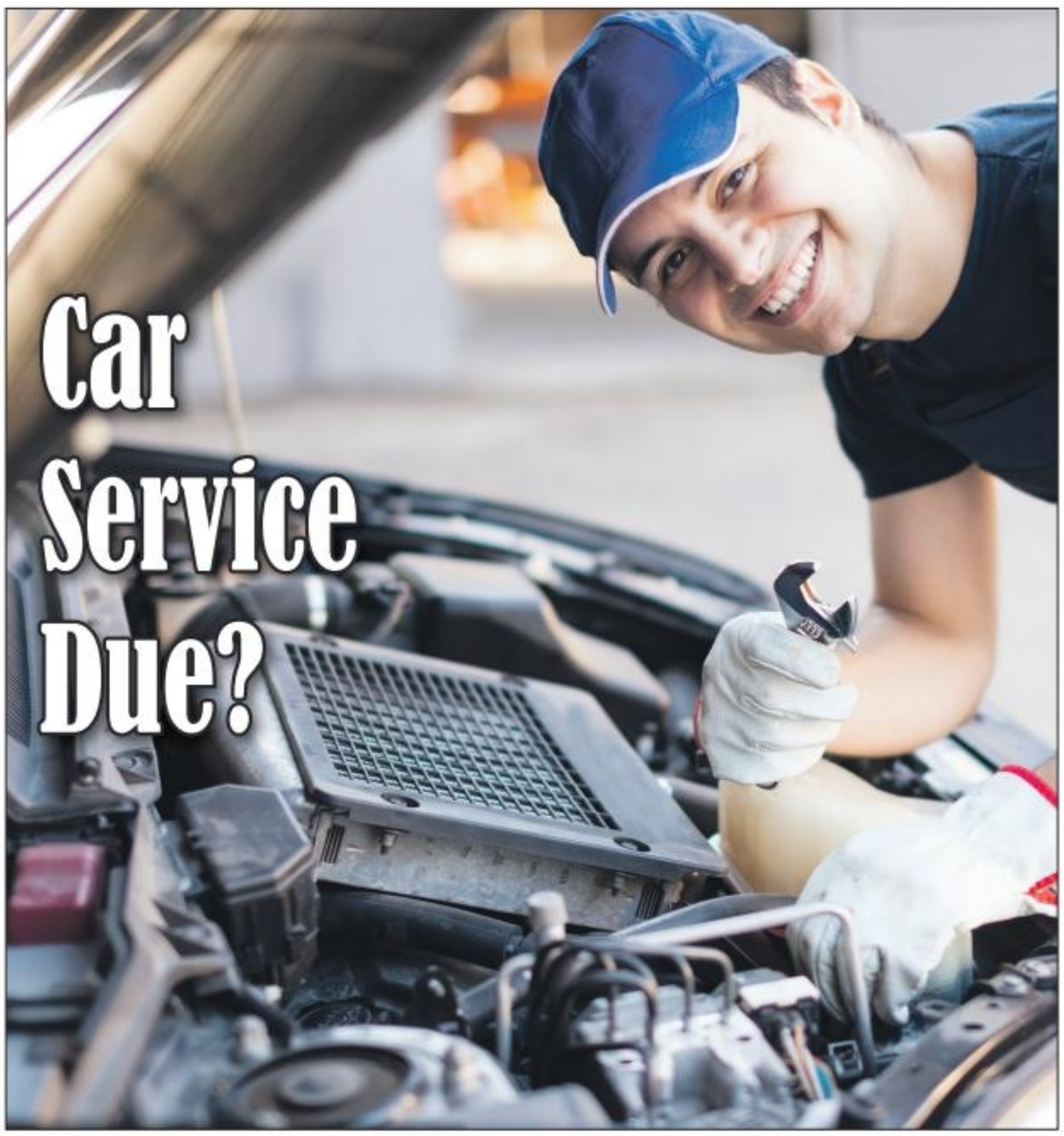

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3rd April - 7th April	£145	15th May - 19th May	£164
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11th June - 17th June	£218	16th July - 21st July	£262
18th June - 23rd June	£222	23rd July - 28 July	£262
25th June - 30th June	£242	30th July - 4th Aug	£268
2nd July - 7th July	£242	6th Aug - 11th Aug	£268

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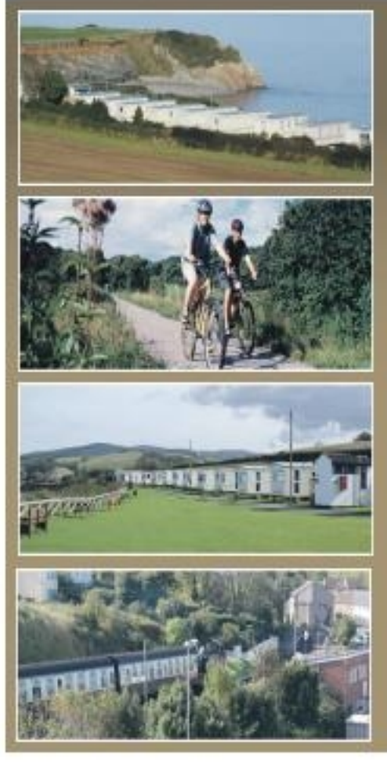

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Public Notices

PUBLIC NOTICE - LICENSING ACT 2003 FULL VARIATION OF PREMISES LICENCE REF NO: 17/00208/PREMV

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an application was made to Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council for a variation to a premises licence under the above Act on 17 February 2017

Applicant(s) - Mr and Mrs Bates

Address of Premises – Rhu Bar, 21 London Road, Basingstoke, RG21 7NT

Proposed variation – Extend times for opening hours and licensable activities (regulated entertainment, sale of alcohol and late night refreshment) and amending licence conditions.

The postal address of the licensing authority where the register is kept and the application may be inspected is:
BDBC, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, RG21 4AH
Any person wishing to make representations on this matter shall give notice, in writing, stating the precise nature of such representations to the Head of Street Scene, Parks and Regulatory Services, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council, Civic Offices, London Road, Basingstoke, Hampshire, RG21 4AH within 28 days of the publication date of this notice given above. Further details on how to make a valid representation is on the licensing authorities website www.basingstoke.gov.uk or from the licensing team on 01256 844844 or email licensing@basingstoke.gov.uk

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is £5000.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2015 NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Proposed development at: Land to the Rear of 108 Bartholomew Street, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5DT. Take notice that application is being made by Ressance Limited for planning permission to: The demolition of the existing building and the erection of 7 No. new flats.

Local Planning Authority to whom the application is being submitted: West Berkshire District Council, Council Offices, Market Street, Newbury, Berkshire.

Any owner of the land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application, should write to the council within 21 days of the date of this notice.

Signatory: Mr Duncan Crook
Date: 23 February 2017

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BARBER SHOP

Bison battle to Lightning win

By Christian Wilson

BASINGSTOKE Bison bounced back from successive defeats to beat Milton Keynes Lightning on Saturday.

The Herd look to be too far away from all those around them to drop or finish higher than their current spot in fourth place going into the final five games of the regular English Premier League (EPL) season.

But they gave a positive glimpse of what next month's EPL play-offs could look like on Saturday by putting in a battling showing to come from behind twice and beat second-placed Milton Keynes at the Basingstoke Arena.

Things got off to the worst possible start however, as Lewis Hook skated round the zone and slotted the puck into the corner to give the Lightning the lead with just 1:51 on the clock.

Bison responded well to that setback but found netminder Przemyslaw Odrobny in great form, as he denied Stuart Mogg, Ciaran Long and then Derek Roehl in quick succession.

But the hosts finally found a way past the Milton Keynes goalie 2:45 from the first interval – albeit thanks to good fortune – when Vanya Antonov's blast was deflected in off Dan Davies.

After a string of penalty offences from both sides, the visitors retook the lead on 29:35 through Frankie Bakrlik's smart finish past Tomas Hiadlovsky in the Stampede goal.

But after Lewis Christie was called for a blatant roughing penalty on Aaron Connolly, Bison made the most of the powerplay to level the tie once again through Roehl's fiercely struck drive along the ice.

This proved to be the catalyst for the Basingstoke win, as the hosts seemed to grow stronger and stronger in the final period, with Tomas Karpov, Connolly and Declan Balmer all finding Odrobny in the way.

But the Poland international could do nothing to deny the Bison charge just under five minutes from time, as Balmer fed Long to step in to the shot and blast into the middle of the net for the win.

Basingstoke are next in action away to Peterborough Phantoms on Sunday.

• Ciaran Long celebrates his winner (Picture by grantkingphotography.com)

'Stoke's seaside success

BASINGSTOKE RFC ran in five tries on their way to a bonus point win at the seaside on Saturday, although were made to work for a 25-17 win after Bognor mounted a late comeback attempt.

And they were put under the cosh early on as well as it took the visitors 20 minutes to respond to an early Bognor try by levelling the score through Brent Evans' effort.

But while Ben Hawkins missed the resulting conversion, 'Stoke didn't have long to wait to go ahead, as captain Robbie Northcote went over under the posts following a superb run by Ed Mallaby.

And there was still time for Basingstoke to grab a third try before half-time through Matt Guilfoyle, with Hawkins missing a third conversion in a row to leave the score at 15-5.

In fact, the fly half would miss each of his five conversions in the match, although it didn't seem to matter when Simon Appleby and then Jonty Newton took the try tally up to five.

But with the score at 25-5, 'Stoke then took their foot off the gas and were handed a late scare as Bognor scored two more tries of their own.

The win means Basingstoke are just three points behind third-placed Old Cranleighans in London 3 South West going into Saturday's clash with Trojans.

Town secure back to back victories

YET another piece of magic by Nana Owusu helped inspire Basingstoke Town to their second win in a week.

The winger has come to his side's rescue several times this season with his trademark long range free kicks.

But while he didn't get on the scoresheet this time, Owusu once again produced the game's best moment to set up the game decider in the 2-1 win over Biggleswade Town at the Ark Cancer Charity Stadium on Saturday.

• Nana Owusu (Picture by Daniel Murphy)

With 75 minutes gone and the game still locked level, the former Reading player embarked on a sensational 60 yard run down the left, beat two defenders and put in a dangerous cross that Ashleigh Artwell duly hammered into the net.

For long periods, it didn't look like 'Stoke would claim a much-needed home win, as Biggleswade took the lead after just four minutes through Nicholas Bignall's 18-yarder.

The day before the game, Basingstoke confirmed the capture of striker Oluwatobi Adekunle from Team Solent, although his signing on dual forms saw him instead play in the Wessex League.

But this inevitable arrival appeared to inspire one of the players who will be fighting it out with Adekule for a starting place up front, as Aaron Jarvis fired a superb bicycle kick from Matt Partridge's cross into the net five minutes before half time.

That stunning strike came just minutes after the visitors came within a whisker of doubling their advantage, with Aaron Tokarczyk just managing to dispossess Rhys Hornes as he attempted to take the ball around him.

The young keeper then went one better by pulling off one of the saves of the season to deny Connor Hall's goalbound shot with a strong hand as he dived in the opposite direction.

But after Owusu and Artwell combined for the game winner, Tokarczyk stepped up yet again to preserve the points by scoring a penalty eight minutes from time.

Sport Bites

Deserved win

ICE HOCKEY: Doug Sheppard has led the praises of his Basingstoke Bison players after his side beat Milton Keynes Lightning.

The Herd twice came from behind to secure a 3-2 victory at the Basingstoke Arena, with the Stampede head coach insisting the win showed his side had "inner strength".

He said: "I'm really happy with how we played.

"It was a great team effort and I couldn't ask any more from my players. We fell behind twice in the game but we discovered our inner strength and fought back twice.

"The game could have gone either way but I liked the way we pushed for the win in the third period and think we got the points we deserved."

Lots to cheer

CHEERLEADING: The Basingstoke Wolverines took five teams to compete at Levels 1, 2 and 3 at Legacy Cheer & Dance in their first competition of the season at the Copperbox Arena, London.

The Rogue team finished first out of four teams at Senior COED Level 3, while the Queens team placed second out of nine teams in their division at Senior Level 2.

Storm competed at Senior Level 1 and finished fourth, Prodigy came third at Youth Level 2, while the club's youngest team, Mystique, finished second at Youth Level 1.

Head coach Kayleigh Fennell said: "These results reflect what a fantastically hard working and competitive club we have and this stems down to the athletes' work ethic and the amazing job our volunteers and coaches do."

Argent brace

FOOTBALL: Two goals from Sam Argent handed Hartley Wintney yet another three points on Saturday.

The Row emerged with a 2-0 win – their 28th from 34 matches this season – at CB Hounslow United to move 25 points clear at the top of the Combined Counties Premier.

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Inside: Bison surge to win over Lightning | Back to back wins for Basingstoke Town | Five tries for Basingstoke RFC at the seaside

Collard to race again with WSR

• *Rob Collard has been confirmed as a West Surrey Racing driver for the new British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) season (Picture by btcc.net)*

By Christian Wilson

ROB Collard's British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) future has finally been confirmed for another season.

The Hook racer had been left to sweat over his future in recent weeks as his team West Surrey Racing (WSR) delayed announcing their final driver for the 2017 campaign.

But after putting in his most competitive drive ever last year to finish fifth in the standings and help WSR to the constructors' title last season, the 48-year-old has been rewarded with a spot on the team.

Collard found himself at the top of the leaderboard on several occasions throughout the year, before missing out to Honda's Gordon Shedden on the final day.

His four fastest laps and 140 places made up from starting positions were also unmatched by any driver in 2016 and saw him handed the Dunlop ForeverForward Trophy at the BTCC Night of Champions.

And with former BTCC champions Andrew Jordan and Colin Turkington both arriving as new teammates for the curtain raiser on April 1, Collard expressed his excitement over the future at WSR.

He said: "It's fantastic to be staying with WSR.

"They have a pedigree like no other team in the BTCC and the level of professionalism and preparation that has been key to their success is clear to see in everything they do.

"This will be my 10th season with the team and I plan to use that continuity to my advantage.

"I took my first BTCC win and my first podium with WSR and now my aim is to take my first title with them too.

"With Colin and Andrew as my team-mates, I think we have the strongest line-up in the championship and I can't wait to start testing."

Team principal Dick Bennetts added: "We're very pleased to continue our partnership with Rob.

"He's very much part of the family here, he's one of the best drivers in the BTCC for pure racing ability and played a pivotal role in WSR's constructors' and teams' title successes in 2016.

"I don't see any reason why he can't be a title contender again."

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